WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A photometer comprising:

a photometric sensor having a range corresponding to a field, said photometric sensor being two-
5   dimensionally divided into plural areas and capable of metering each of the divided areas; and

an arithmetical operation circuit adapted to calculate one-dimensional data from the outputs of said photometric sensor to detect the maximum value of said
10   one-dimensional data, and calculating an exposure compensation value in accordance with the detected maximum value of said one-dimensional data, as well as an average brightness value of the subject, and adding said exposure compensation value and said average
15   brightness value to acquire a correct brightness value.

2.   The photometer according to claim 1, wherein said arithmetical operation circuit changes an operation area for performing an arithmetical operation on the
20   one-dimensional data in accordance with a principal subject position or a focus detected position within a screen in calculating said one-dimensional data from the outputs of said photometric sensor.

25   3.   The photometer according to claim 1, wherein said arithmetical operation circuit calculates the average brightness value over the screen by varying the

weighting for each portion within the screen, and
calculates the exposure compensation value in
accordance with the detected maximum value of said one-
dimensional data by changing a method for calculating
5   the exposure compensation value in accordance with the
position of the detected maximum value of said one-
dimensional data within the screen and said weighting.

4.   The photometer according to claim 1, wherein said
10   one-dimensional data is obtained by adding and
averaging plural pieces of brightness data divided in
row and column direction within the screen in the row
or column direction.

15   5.   An image sensing device comprising:
a recording medium adapted to receive a light from
the subject, and outputting the image information;
a photometric sensor having a range corresponding
to a field, said photometric sensor being two-
20   dimensionally divided into plural areas and capable of
metering each of the divided areas;
an arithmetical operation circuit adapted to
calculate one-dimensional data from the outputs of said
photometric sensor to detect the maximum value of said
25   one-dimensional data, and calculating an exposure
compensation value in accordance with the detected
maximum value of said one-dimensional data, as well as

an average brightness value of the subject, and adding

said exposure compensation value and said average

brightness value to acquire a correct brightness value;

and

5   a light control device adapted to control the

quantity of light arriving to said recording medium in

accordance with said correct brightness value.

6.   An image sensing device comprising:

10   a photoelectric conversion element adapted to

receive a light from the field and outputting an

electrical signal, said photoelectric conversion

element being two-dimensionally divided into plural

areas, and capable of outputting the electrical signal

15   for each of the divided areas;

an arithmetical operation circuit adapted to

calculate one-dimensional data from the outputs of said

photoelectric conversion element to detect the maximum

value of said one-dimensional data, and calculating an

20   exposure compensation value in accordance with the

detected maximum value of said one-dimensional data, as

well as an average brightness value of the subject, and

adding said exposure compensation value and said

average brightness value to acquire a correct

25   brightness value; and

a light control device adapted to control the

quantity of light arriving to said photoelectric

conversion element in accordance with said correct

brightness value.

7.   A photometric method comprising:

5   a step of calculating one-dimensional data from

the outputs of a photometric sensor having a range

corresponding to a field, said photometric sensor being

two-dimensionally divided into plural areas;

a step of detecting the maximum value of said

10   calculated one-dimensional data;

a step of calculating an exposure compensation

value in accordance with the detected maximum value of

said one-dimensional data;

a step of calculating an average brightness value

15   over the field; and

a step of adding said exposure compensation value

and said average brightness value to acquire a correct

brightness value.

20   8.   The photometric method according to claim 7,

wherein the step of calculating the one-dimensional

data from the outputs of the photometric sensor

comprises changing an operation area for calculating

said one-dimensional data in accordance with a

25   principal subject position or a focus detected position

within the screen.

9. The photometric method according to claim 7, wherein the step of calculating the average brightness value over the screen comprises calculating the average brightness value over the screen by varying the

5 weighting for each portion within the screen, and the step of calculating the exposure compensation value in accordance with the detected maximum value of the one-dimensional data comprises changing an operation method in accordance with the position of the detected maximum

10 value of the detected one-dimensional data within the screen and said weighting.

10. The photometric method according to claim 7, wherein said one-dimensional data is obtained by adding

15 and averaging the outputs of the photometric sensor, which is two-dimensionally divided into plural areas, in a row or column direction, an output being obtained for each area.

20 11. A program for causing a computer to perform a processing procedure for calculating a correct brightness value of a field to set up an incident light quantity upon a photoelectric conversion element, said program comprising:

25 a process of calculating one-dimensional data from the outputs of a photometric sensor having a range

corresponding to a field that is two-dimensionally divided into plural areas;

a process of detecting the maximum value of said calculated one-dimensional data;

5   a process of calculating an exposure compensation value in accordance with the detected maximum value of said one-dimensional data;

a process of calculating an average brightness value over the entire field; and

10   a process of adding said exposure compensation value and said average brightness value to acquire a correct brightness value of the subject.

12. A computer readable recording medium for recording
15 the program according to claim 11.